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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/578,925	05/09/2006	Shinji Ueda	L9289.06155	3854
52989 7590 01/11/2008 STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, LLP 1615 L. STREET N.W. SUITE 850 WASHINGTON, DC 20036			EXAMINER HUR, ECE	
			ART UNIT 2179	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 01/11/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/578,925

Applicant(s)

UEDA ET AL.

Examiner

ECE HUR

Art Unit

2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 October 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 May 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☒ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to remarks and arguments filed on October 22, 2006 in which Claims 1 to 2 are cancelled and a new Claim is presented for examination. This application is a new PCT National Stage application of PCT/JP2004/015788 that was filed on October 25, 2004. Applicant is claiming priority for the foreign application Japan 2003-372848 filed on October 31, 2003.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-2 are cancelled and a new Claim 3 is pending in the case. Claim 3 is the independent Claim.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on October 22, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. See rejection details for Claim 3 under section 103(a) being unpatentable over Takashi, JP2003099180 in view of Toru, JP10307662. Applicant argued:

1) Regarding Argument 1, applicant amended the abstract and reduce the number of words. The objection for the abstract is withdrawn.

2) Regarding Argument 2, applicant argued that the claimed subject matter differs from the combined teachings of Takashi and Toru in that the claimed subject matter does not require a delete key to be pressed to replace an incorrectly entered

character. Also, the claimed subject matter does not require the re-entry of the keystrokes leading to the mis-entered character. Applicant should duly note that this is an obvious variation at the time of the invention, to assign the delete key function to any key to reduce key strokes. Reducing key strokes is well known in the art at the time of the invention. Furthermore, applicant is assuming that the user will not enter repeating letters in a word. For example, if the word is "possible", and the user enters the first "s" in the word and wants to enter the second "s", there needs to be another control system whether or not it is deletion or the user wants to enter the same letter again.

Information Disclosure Statement Acknowledgement

The information disclosure statement filed on May 9, 2006 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609. It has been placed in the application file, the information referred to therein has been considered as to the merits.

Priority Acknowledgement

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). Receipt is acknowledged of certified copy of Japanese Application No.2003-

372848, filed on October 31, 2003 submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takashi, JP2003099180 in view of Toru, JP10307662.

Regarding Claim 3, Takashi discloses the claimed aspect of a mobile terminal apparatus with an input section where a plurality of numeric keys combining a plurality of character keys are arranged in FIG. 3. (Takashi, Page 16, FIG. 3). Takashi achieves the claimed aspect of candidate character storage section, wherein a key depression is

performed and the code selected as a candidate is restored to the code previously selected as the candidate.

Takashi achieves the claimed aspect of a character selection fixing section that, when the same numeric key as a numeric key previously pressed is pressed, updates the candidate character stored in the candidate character storage section, wherein a key depression is performed and the code selected as a candidate is restored to the code previously selected as the candidate.

Takashi discloses that when non-depressing state is continued in the prescribed time after the key depression is performed, the code as the candidate is decided. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to store the candidate character in the character storage section is a fixed character when different key is selected, because after the user receives the voice input and decides to continue with a different key illustrates that the user is satisfied with the entry and wants enter further other characters.

Furthermore, Takashi achieves the claimed aspect of a timer section wherein a key depressing state is measured for a prescribed time. Additionally, Takashi achieves the claimed aspect of an input character determination section that determines whether or not the predetermined time passed after the character was input, wherein the key non-depressing state is continued in the prescribed time after the key depression is performed, the code as the candidate is decided as input. (See Takashi, Abstract).

Takashi does not teach the aspect of voice output section. However, Toru achieves the claimed aspect in JP10307662, wherein a user presses a push button for

the desired character to be inputted and the depression state is detected by a PB signal receiving means 502 and an input information decision means 503 discriminates the character that the user has inputted and a voice output means 504 inputs a voice signal of the decided character to the PB telephone set 100, so that the character is voiced through a speaker 102. (Toru, See Abstract). It would be obvious to an ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Takashi's invention with Toru's voice output feature to voice output the character code if the user does enter another character code after a predetermined time. The motivation to combine would be to enable the users to input a character code without an error.

Takashi discloses the claimed aspect of a display control section that displays the fixed character and the candidate character on a screen in FIG. 1 and FIG.2, wherein a display 16 is illustrated.

Takashi does not teach the claimed aspect of outputting voice. However, Toru achieves the claimed aspect in JP10307662 to output voice when a user presses a push button for the desired character to be inputted and the depression state is detected by a push button signal receiving means 502 and an input information decision means 503 discriminates the character that the user has inputted and a voice output means 504 inputs a voice signal of the decided character to the PB telephone set 100, so that the character is voiced through a speaker 102. (Toru, See Abstract). Applicant should duly note that outputting voice when the numeric key has changed without considering the predetermined time is an obvious variation at the time of the invention. It would be obvious to an ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify

Takashi's invention with Toru's voice output feature to voice output the last character entered by the previous key. The motivation to combine would be to enable the users to input a character using a numeric key that contains multiple characters without an error and warn the user if they have start to enter characters on a different numeric key.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- 1) Yamane, Mitoku, US 20060061556 A1, 03/23/2006, "Electronic apparatus".
- 2) Okayasu, Akihito, US 20040022047 A1, 02/05/2004, "Key input device".
- 3) Kang, Yun Gyu et al., US 20020167545 A1, 11/14/2002, "Method and apparatus for assisting data input to a portable information terminal".
- 4) Park; Woong-Gyu, US 20060129402 A1, 06/15/2006, "Method for reading input character data to output a voice sound in real time in a portable terminal".
- 5) Ide, Kenichi, US 20070146315 A1, 06/28/2007, "Key input device and key input method thereof". Refers to KOKAI, PN 2650409, "assigning plurality of codes to one key"

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ECE HUR whose telephone number is (571) 270-1972. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 7:30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frantz Coby can be reached on 571-272-4017. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

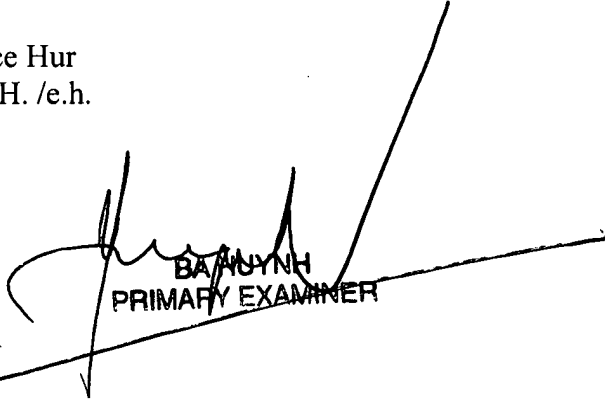
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like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

December 2, 2008

Ece Hur
E.H. /e.h.



BAHUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER